# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
# LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2300
ANSWERED ON:29.11.2016
Wastage of Foodgrain
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**Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:**

(a) whether as per an official study conducted by Central Institute of Post Harvest Engineering and Technology (CIPHET) it has been reported that an estimated 67 million tonnes of food goes waste every year in the country and if so, the details thereof, State-wise and the response of the Government thereto including remedial steps taken in this matter;
(b) the steps taken by the Government to remedy the current situation and ensure timely supply of food to the regions required;
(c) whether the Government is formulating any policy in this regard and if so, the details thereof;
(d) the quantum of foodgrains including wheat and rice lost due to wastage/rotting every year during the last three years and the current year along with the reasons therefor and the remedial action taken thereon including fixation of responsibility; and
(e) whether wastage of a certain percentage of foodgrains is permissible in the supply chain and if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor along with specific referrence as to whether the wastages at present is within the permissible limits?

## Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
(SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY)
...2/-
...2...
(a),(b)&(c): The Central Institute of Post Harvest Engineering and Technology (CIPHET), an Institute under the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has conducted a study in 2013-14 sponsored by Ministry of Food Processing Industries, Government of India on "Assessment of Quantitative Harvest and Post-Harvest Losses of Major Crops/Commodities in India". The study included assessment of harvest and post harvest losses of 45 crops and livestock produce like cereals, pulses, oilseeds, fruits, vegetables, plantation crops, spices, fish, eggs, poultry meat and milk. The losses have been assessed in farm operations (harvesting, collection, sorting, grading, drying, packaging and transport) and storage channels (farm, godown/cold storage, wholesaler, retailer and processing unit).
The CIPHET study has estimated that the annual value of harvest and post harvest losses of major agricultural produce and livestock produce at national level was of the order of Rs. 92,651 crore was calculated using production data of 2012-13 at 2014 wholesale prices. The crop wise harvest and Post harvest losses as assessed by the study are as the table below:
Crop
Cumulative wastage (%)
Cereals
4.65 - 5.99
Pulses
6.36 - 8.41
Oil Seeds
3.08 - 9.96
Fruits & Vegetables
4.58 - 15.88
Milk
0.92
Fisheries (Inland)
5.23
Fisheries Marine
10.52
Meat
2.71
Poultry Meat
6.74
CIPHET has been working on R&D activities towards the development of tools, machines and technologies for storage, post harvest processing and value addition of agricultural commodities to minimize the losses. The Ministry of Food Processing Industries is providing financial assistance under the Central Sector Schemes for promotion and development of food processing sector in the country. These are (i) Scheme for Mega Food Parks, (ii) Scheme for Modern Abattoirs (iii) Scheme for Integrated Cold Chain and Value Addition Infrastructure (iv) Scheme for Creation/Expansion of Food Processing and Preservation (v) Scheme for Quality Assurance (vi) Scheme for Human Resource and Institutions.
...3/-
...3...
Foodgrain stocks under Central Pool are issued by FCI to States/UTs as per the allocation and timely availability of sufficient stock in FCI Depots throughout the country is ensured.

(d) The quantum of foodgrains including wheat and rice damaged in Food Corporation of India (FCI) for the last three years and current year is as under:

| Year | Quantity Damage (in tons) |
|---|---|
| 2013-14 | 24695.455 |
| 2014-15 | 18847.226 |
| 2015-16 | 3115.684 |
| 2016-17 (Upto 01.11.2016) | 8432.682 |

Procured foodgrains are stored by FCI in a scientific manner in covered godowns and in Cover & Plinth (CAP) storage. Scientific codes of practices for safe storage of foodgrains are followed during storage. Inspite of all precautions, some quantity of foodgrains may get damaged/become non-issuable during storage due to various reasons such as storage pests' attack, leakages in godowns, procurement of poor quality stocks, exposure to rains, floods, negligence on the part of concerned persons in taking precautionary measures etc. In case of negligence of officers/officials, suitable disciplinary action against defaulters is invariably taken, wherever warranted. Action taken against officer/officials of FCI for damage of foodgrains during last three years and current year is at Annex-I. Steps taken by the Government to avoid damage of foodgrains in storage are at Annex-II.

(e) Despite of all precautions some operational losses may occur during storage, handling and transportation of foodgrains, FCI has signed an MOU with the Ministry to restrict storage and transit losses.

The storage & transit losses occurred in FCI against MOU targets during 2015-16 are as under:

| Name of Loss | MOU Targets | Performance |
|---|---|---|
| Storage Loss | 0.15% | -0.06% (Gain) |
| Transit Loss | 0.42% | 0.38% |

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ANNEX-I

ANNEX REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (d) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO 2300 TO BE ANSWERED ON 29TH NOVEMBER, 2016 IN LOK SABHA.

| YEAR | NO. OF OFFICERS/ OFFICIALS | PENALTY | COMPULSORY RETIREMENT FROM SERVICES | REDUCTION IN PAY | STOPPAGE OF INCREMENT | RECOVERY | CENSURE/ WARNING | EXONERATED |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2013-14 | 50 | 1 | 11 | 8 | 16 | 5 | 12 | |
| 2014-15 | 77 | 1 | 5 | 4 | 40 | 11 | 4 | |
| 2015-16 | 26 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 9 | 9 | 2 | |
| TOTAL | 153 | | | | | | | |

2
18
12
65
25
18
Note:
â€¢ Total Amount of Recovery in Year 2013-14 is Rs.5,00,000/- ; in Year 2014-15 is Rs.21,81,108/-
and in Year 2015-16 is Rs.4,47,223/-.
â€¢ In some cases, two penalities including recovery from pay has been imposed on the same person.
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ANNEX-II
ANNEX REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (d) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO 2300 TO BE ANSWERED ON 29TH NOVEMBER, 2016 IN LOK SABHA.
STEPS TAKEN BY THE GOVERNMENT AVOID THE DAMAGE OF FOODGRAINS IN STORAGE
Before the commencement of Rabi and Kharif Marketing Seasons, Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution, Department of Food & Public Distribution, Govt. of India issues uniform specifications for procurement of foodgrains for the Central Pool. These uniform specifications are circulated to F.C.I. and all State Govts./Agencies with instructions to ensure that foodgrains are procured strictly in accordance with the uniform specifications.
2. Foodgrains procured by F.C.I. and State Govts/Agencies are stored in covered godowns as well as in CAP (cover and plinth).
3. During storage, the following steps are taken for safe storage and preservations of foodgrains:
(i) All godowns are constructed as per specifications.
(ii) Foodgrains are stored by adopting proper scientific code of storage practices.
(iii) Adequate dunnage materials such as wooden crates, bamboo mats, polythene sheets are used to check migration of moisture from the floor to the foodgrains.
(iv) Fumigation covers, nylon ropes, nets and insecticides for control of stored grain insect pests are provided in all the godowns.
(v) Prophylactic (spraying of insecticides) and curative treatments (fumigation) are carried out regularly and timely in godowns for the control of stored grain insect pests.
(vi) Effective rat control measures, both in covered godowns as well as in CAP storage are used.
(vii) Foodgrains in 'Cover and Plinth' (CAP) storage are stored on elevated plinths and wooden crates are used as dunnage material. Stacks are properly covered with specifically fabricated low-density black polythene water-proof covers and tied with nylon ropes/nets.
(viii) Regular periodic inspections of the stocks/godowns are undertaken by qualified and trained staff and all senior officers. The health of the foodgrains is monitored at regular intervals by a system of checks and super checks at different levels. Following Checks and Super checks are conducted in the godowns by FCI to ensure proper preservation of foodgrains in the storage.
a) Fortnightly inspection of stocks on 100% basis by Technical Assistant.
b) Monthly inspection by Manager(QC)
c) Quarterly inspection by AGM(QC)
d) Super Checks by Regional, Zonal and FCI Hqrs Squads.
(ix)The principle of "First in First Out" (FIFO) is followed to the extent possible so as to avoid longer storage of foodgrains in godowns.
(x) Only covered rail wagons are used for movement of foodgrains so as to avoid damage during transit.
(xi) Damage Monitoring Cells have been set up at District, Regional and Zonal levels to regularly monitor quality of stocks and reduce damages.
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